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## SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS

July 22, 2001

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 02-6 and CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Please accept this letter of appeal for a window waiver for Billed Entity name and number El Paso Public Library 142112, relevant form application number is not available as it was not accepted online.

I am the Budget & Services Coordinator with the El Paso Public Library (EPPL) for the City of El Paso and I am writing to you to appeal the acceptances of FY2011 Form 471 by the United Service Administrative Company (USAC) dated July 18, 2011.

Form 470 was accepted online on June 20, 2011 and a letter of confirmation was received by the El Paso Public Library on June 30, 2011. The EPPL did wait the mandatory 28-day competitive bidding process and when Form 471 application was being entered online, EPPL was notified that it 'will be considered as received out-of-window' and EPPL must file a window waiver request with the Federal Communications Commission. EPPL has already chosen the providers and have existing contracts, as well as existing relationships with the providers; the acceptance Form 471 would allow EPPL to receive the discounts from the providers.

At the end of the Regular Session of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislature, The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) learned that Texas Legislature, General Appropriations Act for the 2012-2013 biennium (House Bill No. 1) included a 64 percent reduction in General Revenue funding for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. This cut resulted in El Paso Public Library losing the entire Loan Star Library program and EPPL is still waiting to see how much of the Texas Trans Pecos Library Systems has been eliminated. The loss of Loan Star and local budget cuts to the El Paso





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Public Library's budget over the last two years has made the discounts from communication providers a necessity to provide computers and software to the public.

El Paso Texas is in a unique position as the largest International Border in the world. Sixty-five percent of households in the El Paso area do not have computers in their homes and many rely on the El Paso Public Library for free computer and computer training. The EPPL has 647 patron computers that have 394,014 of users thus far in FY11, September 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011.

So I ask that you accept this appeal and allow USAC to accept the El Paso Public Library's Form 471 to continue in the E-Rate discount.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kay Riley Budget & Services Coordinator El Paso Public Library RileyLK2@elpasotexas.gov (915) 543-5417 phone (915) 543-5403 fax Mayor John F. Cook

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